

Nov. 3, 2015

Mike,

Here is the history written by Henry L. Waidlich. It came to Jane through the North family. I would guess that it was originally handwritten and someone lovingly typed it attempting to be correct. After my trip to Germany to visit the towns where Johann David lived and worked, I realized some names were not spelled correctly and some towns had actually been renamed. Henry may even have forgotten some exact dates. If you ever have any questions about it let me know. Karen and I may have managed to sort out any conflicting information.

I only vaguely recall hearing about Jackson Spring's 3 page letter to my Dad, but if it is different than this history (i.e., Jackson's own writing, perspective, or summary) I would like a copy. If it is just a copy of some of Henry's pages, as you can see, I don't need it. Let me know.

Enjoy!

Betty

July 2, 2003

Dear Betty,

Here is the complete "Henry Waidlich" family history (we talked about this when we visited), and to put it in context, some additional background.

**Henry** was the youngest of the twelve children of John David Waidlich and his wife, Anna Maria Schaibley

**Frederick Christian**, the second oldest child in the family, was our great grandfather. So it goes like this, working back with you as the first generation:

Betty Waidlich

William G Waidlich

William A C Waidlich

Frederick Christian Waidlich whose younger brother is Henry

Four generations, and 180 years ago, when Frederick Christian was born, Germany was in turmoil and from Henry's early childhood memories, we can see how restrictive life was for them.

Henry's original title page is in bad shape, so we replaced it, but the wording is the same, it was "Written by himself".

Please feel free to share this with Karen if she is interested. Hope you enjoy reading through this as much as I have.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jane".

# **Henry L. Waidlich**

**A Family History**  
**Written by Himself**

Mercersburg, Nov. 9, 1915

The idea often has come to my mind how nice it would be and very often useful in after years, if each and every family were to keep and write up a little history of their own family as they go on through their journey of life. It would be interesting no doubt to their own children and often settle many ugly questions that often arise among children, after their parents have gone to their long home, and no longer with them, to set them straight on each question, and then again seems to me it would be interesting to themselves to read over matters that we did and things come to pass, when we were young when we were young. As we read over these things when we are old, would take us back for the time being to our boyhood or girlhood days, live for the time being those days over again, in mind and thought, thus no doubt bring up many pleasant memories, that otherwise be forgotten.

So quite a number of years ago I made up my mind to try to write up such a history of the Waidlich family, yet I fear I cannot write a very correct history very far back, as I know very little of the early days of the family, being the youngest of the family, and no one to ask of the early history, as all the older ones are dead and only two of us are living at this date, the two youngest of the family. But I will do the best I can and only write on such matters I know to be true.

One thing the older brothers did as they came to America which I see was a great mistake, that is to change the spelling of the name from the German WAIDELICH to WAIDLICH. Thus leaving the E out of the name and of course the younger ones as they came to America at different times followed the older ones and fell in with making this mistake. There were 12 children, 7 boys and five girls, all coming to America at different times by ones and twos, except one Son, we know never coming here, and one daughter that remained with Mother. After a few years of the Mother's death, the daughter followed after, no doubt dying of a broken heart. Of this we will speak of later on as we come to writing up of the history of hers.

To write up a history of anything and so doing should be acquainted with all that is in connection with it, whether it be a history of any great event, taken place at any time, or whether it be a history of a family, having lived at one time, and now having passed away or about having past and gone to their reward.

The history that is herein written, perhaps may not be in full, in all its details, as the writer was not personally acquainted with everything in connection therewith being the youngest of the family of twelve children, some of these having left home before I was born, and did not have the pleasure of meeting until having reached manhood age. And one brother I never saw having left home before I was born and he never returned, but will speak of him later on in this history, only however of such matters and things I learned of him through my older brothers and sisters.

Our family was an exception of a general rule from most of families is one thing certain, as we will learn in taking up its history. One thing we can boast of is we were born from Pious Parents, both Father and Mother. If there is such a thing as any person praying without ceasing, our Mother did XX and our Father was equally holy in all matters whatsoever kind, he always stood for the right between God and Man. He loved his home and his children, he would make all manner of sacrifice in behalf of his home and comforts of his home and children, there was nothing he would have undone where he could see benefit would come out to his family. No journey too great if he could see any benefit to arrive, by any or all of his family. Seems to me I can see the smile on his face yet today when, as a little boy, sitting on his knee, as he was talking to people about his children, he surely was proud of his boys and girls.

Our parents being in rather limited circumstances, never being able to accumulate very much of this world's goods, it was necessary for the older ones to start out early in life and make a living for themselves, all the boys started to learn a trade, as soon as they were confirmed, which was at the age of fourteen years. At that age the compulsory school days ended, any one wishing of a still more education, would go to some college, but as I said before, my father being of a rather poor man, he could not send any of his boys to college where they receive a higher education, although several of them had a chance to do so.

So one after another of the boys as they reached the age of fourteen were bound out to a master, some to Blacksmiths, some Locksmiths, some to Cabinet makers, some to Shoemakers, hence our family scattered early in life, and out of the twelve children, never more than eight being home at one and the same time, the older ones coming to America before some of the younger ones were born, and even some of the older ones after coming to America, having left and separated from Brothers and Sisters in their Father's house, it was their last separation. Even coming to America, they never met on this side of the Ocean, the ones stopping in the East never went West, and the ones going direct West upon reaching America, never came East. Hence they never meet until they would meet on the other shore of the next world. Of each we will speak separately as we come to tell their history as they come in age, one after another.

As I said in the beginning, a person writing up or attempting to write a family history, one should be acquainted with all the facts, or most of everything. For that reason I been a little slow in commencing although the idea suggested itself to me many times years ago, and perhaps I had better done so then, when the idea first came to me, while some of the older brothers and sisters were living, from which I could have gathered some of the earlier doings more accurately, and some doings of which I don't know anything at all about. Mostly what I know is from hearing the older ones talking about, many things happened no doubt in the earlier days of this our family and would be pleasing to know and read about but its knowledge will be forever lost. What a pity such being the case, this younger generation can never know very much of their grandparents, who lived and died in Germany.

Of my grandparents on my father's or mother's side, I know nothing. They either died before I was born or while I was quite young, at least

I don't remember of them at all, and I can't remember of hearing either my father or my mother say anything about them. It is likely if I had started to write this history while some of the older brothers or sisters lived I might have learned something from them, to put down in this history. My sister at one time did tell me of my father's family. There were three brothers and one sister, one of his brothers was a teacher. What the other one followed I don't know. What became of the sister I don't know. Neither do I know what their names were. The one brother that was a teacher, he died quite young, long enough before my father died. I never saw but one of my father's brothers, he was at my father's funeral, but never came back afterwards. What his name was I don't know, so with this we must be content, as I don't know or ever heard any one say anything about that I can remember of any other brothers or sisters or grandparents.

My father's name was John David Waidelich. He was born in the year of 1794 in a town in Germany, Kingdom of Wurttemberg, the town was called Unterland. Sometime during his boyhood or young manhood, the King requested that as Teachers in that Country at that time being scarce, to select the best and most promising young men of the Kingdom, and send them to College and educate them at his expense, and prepare them for Teachers and as I am proud to say, my Father was one of that number, so also one of his brothers were so chosen and sent to an institution of learning located at Diebingen. After his graduation there, he was assigned to take charge of three schools in three different towns, Aichelberg, Hornberg and Aichhalden, he making his home in the last named town of Aichhalden. There was one other town which was in connection of school with Aichhalden, this town was called Oberweiler. He taught two days of each week in these three different Schools. To reach these towns he had to travel from six to eight miles either being about that distance from Aichhalden. How long he taught in these different towns in this way, I can't say. Besides teaching at these different places, he done a great deal of writing for the people of that community in connection with business with the King and other high officials.

With all these doings it shows he was a very busy man, but he done all this for the love of his home and his children, and I remember of hearing my mother say, when I was but a small boy, that one time having a great deal of writing to do, he was late getting started from home, making the trip to Eichelberg, this being in the Wintertime, consequently had to walk very fast (as all traveling in that country was done on foot) in order to be on time for opening for School. And no doubt snow on the ground, and consequently was very much overheated when he got to the Schoolhouse, his clothing being wet with perspiration, and no fire had been started in the Schoolhouse, he found it cold after starting the fire, some of the neighbors insisted on his coming to their house and staying until the Schoolhouse was warm enough to stay in, but he being such a stout hardy and strong man, he refused. He thought he could stand everything, this would not hurt him, but he took a cold which left its mark. And eventually after having tried everything, and taking medicine from some of the best known doctors in that country, it took him to an early grave. After his health began to fail, he had to give up the school of Hornberg and Eichelberg, and only taught in the Schools of Aichhalden and Oberweiler, these two towns were about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile apart. The Schoolhouse was built about half way between the two towns.

The town of Aichhalden was a little farmers village of about 120 inhabitants; the town of Oberweiler was the same in size and inhabited. Farmers in that country lived alltogether in little towns, their land laying right around them, none of them having very many acres, the land was worked principally with and some of the poorer classes, worked their milk cows, farmers raised rye, oats, flax, hemp, cabbage, potatoes and turnips. Rye was ground into flour and baked into bread. Bread was all baked of rye flower, no wheat flour was used. Oats was ground into flour and used for oatmeal mush and used for cooking in many different ways.

My father was married about the age of twenty-six to Anna Maria Schaibley sometime during the year of 1821. Their married life seemed to be a happy one, they having agreed with each other, on all matters of importance. Hence I never heard or knew of any serious trouble coming between them, neither did I ever hear any of my elder brothers or sisters say anything of their having any great trouble over anything, so we may say it was a happy union.

Sometime during the years of 1848 to 1850 my fathers health got so bad, he had to give up teaching entirely, the Government furnished him a substitute to assist him by the name of Christian Frederick Spring, who it seems was a fine man, taking all manner of teaching off my fathers shoulders; with the hope of his regaining his former health, my father took up outdoor work. He connected himself with a man that dealt largely in lumber, that being a great lumber country, mostly Pine. That kept him principally outdoors all the time but the disease had taken such a hold on his lungs and throat, that there seemed to be nothing found to check the disease. Yet he kept going every day as long as he was able to travel, until the summer of 1856. In the early Spring and Summer, he commenced going down pretty fast, and finally was compelled to remain in bed entirely. Until the Sunday of August 20, 1856, being as bright in mind apparently as he ever was in his life, having ~~given directions~~ given directions during the afternoon to a Justice of the Peace, as to how to proceed, to get up an instrument of writing, and the sending of some money to a girl to America, of which my father was Guardian, the minister came in soon afterwards and administered Communion to him and my mother together, when about four o'clock my father wanted to sit up a bit, and in coming back to bed my mother noticed a change, and he just laid over on the bed, and in an instance all was over. Soon before us children could come in from the adjoining room, he was dead. One thing I want to mention right here, my mother told us children afterwards that the Friday night before, he had called to her and said Maria we will soon separate, but before we do, let us forgive each other of everything of whatever ill feeling we may have caused each other during our married life, and he took her hand. Their married life was about thirty-six years. He died on Sunday afternoon, August 20, 1856, at the age of sixty-two years, two months and two days, and was buried the following Thursday, August 24, in Zwerenberg, a town about six miles away from Aichhalden. There is where the cemetery was and everybody that died was taken there for burial.

The coffin was strapped on a kind of tressel with handles and four men would carry the coffin a certain distance, then four others, that had walked behind, would take up the burden and they would carry awhile, and so on until the cemetery was reached. Only two of my sisters, Eva Maria and Agatha besides my mother were there to follow him to his grave. I myself at that time was sick with scarlet fever and it was a question as to whether I would not soon follow. There is a Hymn that is translated in English and found in our Lutheran Hymn Book, which was a favorite hymn

of my mother. She knelt by my father's grave and repeated this Hymn - in our Hymn Book 533 - Jesus still lead on, till our rest be soon.

Thus ended a busy life, a life that apparently was hard, not so much to his own pleasures and comforts but more for the pleasure and comfort of his family, which were all in all to him to his dying day.

As to my grandparents on my mothers side I know nothing. If I ever did hear my brothers or sisters say anything about them, I have forgotten it. They lived in a little town called Eberweiler, which was probably from 2 to three miles from the town of Aichhalden, but I don't think it was quite as large as Aichhalden, not more than half. I remember of hearing my sister Mary say once, that grandfather was also a school teacher like my father. There were seven of a family of children, four girls and three boys. To my recollection I never saw but the one sister. She had been married to a man by the name of Kern. She was a widow, but if my memory serves me right, she was about to be married again at the time of my leaving the Country. She had three boys, one was married and the other two, Frederick and John, came to America when I did. I heard very little of them after coming to this Country, they went out West to Indiana, as soon as they came here. Both served enlistments in the Army during the Civil War, both lived to come out safe. I once saw them both during a trip I made to Indiana during the years of 1865 and 66. Since that time I never heard of them.

My mothers name being Anna Maria Schaubley, she was born sometime during the year of 1801, I don't know the month or date of the month; was about twenty years of age when she was married from her talk I used to hear her say I would say she was a jolly girl, full of life, but with it all, a Christian girl, a true wife, a kind and loving mother. Like I said of my father, she lived for the good of her children, her family were all in all to her. She bore ~~XXXX~~ 12 children, seven boys and five girls. She raised them all yet when she closed her eyes in death, there was but one with her, to follow her to her grave, all the other eleven were in far off country, mostly in America.

My father was the first to die in our family and my mother was next. After the death of my father, my mother with us three children had to leave the Schoolhouse. Up to this time we lived in the Schoolhouse such being the custom of that Country, schoolteachers with their families lived in the Schoolhouse. But ninety days after the death of my father, we moved. My mother rented a room down town, were we all stayed in; it was close quarters, but it was best we could do. We had sale, sold off everything, only what furniture we had to have, and could get into that one room. I remember the mans name was that owned the house, George Grosshaus. He was not very kind to my mother. I often saw her crying from receiving bad treatment from him and his family. After me having the following year, she moved out to another house. I am satisfied she saw hard times, spent many weary hours and sleepless nights, yet she never forgot her God. She was strong in her faith. I am satisfied if there is such a thing as a person praying without ceasing, my mother did. She was ever praying or singing, when not engaged talking to a person.

I have often said if there is but one woman in Heaven, I know it



is my mother. I seem to hear her now as she is milking the spotted cow we used to have, either praying or singing the hymn I spoke of being a favorite hymn of hers, Jesus Still Lead On. Sometime during the years of 1864 or 65, my sister who my mother staid with, was married and from then on my mother made her home with them until her death, which was eleven years after the death of my father. She died on the 21st day of December, 1867, aged about 66 years. I am told she was not buried beside my father, being some distance where she died from where my father was buried and no way in that country to convey dead persons only to carry them.

She was buried in the nearest cemetery they were to which I am told washear a town by the name of Euzthal.

Erzthal

The first child born was a son, they named him Ernst Mathias, he was born May 29, 1822, in the town of Oberweiler, at that time the schoolhouse was not fitted for the teacher and his family to live in the house. The new schoolhouse to accommdate living rooms for the teacher was build some years afterwards, don't know of any great event taking place during his boyhood days. He started to school at the age of six years and graduated at the age of 14. At that age all children as the saying goes in that country, get free from school, I mean week day schools, and they are confirmed and become members of the church, Lutheran Church, as no other denomination is known in that country, only a few scattered Catholics.

Next thing after getting free from school was to learn a trade, he chose blacksmith, so he went to a town called Simersfeld, a little larger than Aichhalden, a distance of probably three miles, where he was bound out to a master for three years, to learn him the trade. I never heard of anything special taken place during the three years of his apprenticeship. I suppose he was a good boy, tried to learn all he could, at least I would judge so as he was a splendit workman. In the year of 1839, the American fever ran high, parties coming from that country to America. He had served his three years of apprenticeship and passed all his examinations creditable, hence was set free from his master.

He joined one of the companies coming to America, by my father's advice you might say, came as a spy to see if it was in this country as was reported, and if he did not like it, or would rather live in that country, my father would send him money that would bring him back. My father at that time was paving a way for the rest of his boys, as there were quite a good many younger ones coming along, as you will see in fhllowing up this history. Just how long it took him to make this journey, I am not able to say. At that time the majority of the emigrants traveled by sail ship and some were, as I heard them say myself as high as three months on the ocean. My brother came to Lancaster, just how he came to get there, I can not say. He got work at his trade in a little town about nine miles out of Lancaster city, by the name of Marticville. He was married to a Miss Katharine Lehman, December 18, 1845. To them was born seven children, Anna Maria; Katharine, Barbara, Elizabeth, Rachel, David, Frances. After he had worked quite a number of years at Marticville, he moved away from that place to some distance called Clay Hill, still working at his trade.

For sometime he had come up to Franklin County and worked over about St. Thomas of which I will speak later on. Having worked at his trade for quite a number of years, I suppose, very hard as at those times everything had to be forged out by hand, he living in a part of a country where many new wagons were being built, for the hauling of ore and pig iron. This gave blacksmiths much work and hard work of all kinds, building wagons and shoeing horses. He got considerable used up with rheumatism and not able to follow the trade any more. He concluded to try something else. He bought what was then known the Lamp Tavern which was several miles out from Lancaster on the road leading to Marticville. Took possession of this place April 1, 1874 but was not intended he should follow that business long. The Lord cut it short, he called him home June 4, 1874, at the age of 52 years. He had joined the I.O.O.F. at Rawlinsville, Lancaster County, in April, 1869, he was a member in good standing at the time of his death. The Lodge attended the funeral in a body, had a large turnout. He was buried the following Sunday, ~~XXXX~~ in a small country cemetery close to Marticville. His widow with two of the younger children, David and Frances, moved up to Mercersburg, but did not like it up here. They soon moved back, the widow and Frances. David stayed up here and learned the trade of his father, blacksmith, F. and J. Poffinger, at Cove Gap. But some years afterwards he too went back to the place of his birth, Marticville, where I am told he is working at his trade at the time of writing. The mother lived ten years after the death of the father, she died the summer of 1884, and was buried beside her husband. She was a lovely kind woman, faithful wife and a good kind mother. She got very hard of hearing soon after she was married, which affliction she bore without a murmur. The rest of the children are scattered some in Oklahoma, others in other parts of the western states. Some other of the girls I learn are yet around Marticville and one, Katharine, I am told lost her life a number of years ago at Galveston, Texas, in a flood. This brother Ernst had accumulated some little property, not a great deal. He had spent considerable the last few months of his life fixing the Tavern stand he had bought, hence when it was sold, it did not bring enough to pay back all that was spent on it.

The second child born was also a son, he was born November 17, 1823, they named him Frederick Christian. He was also born in the town of Oberweiler, he too started to public school at the age of six years, and graduated when he was 14. Nothing of any great importance that I ever heard tell of took place during his boyhood days to talk about. He too was bound out to a master to learn a trade, chose the trade of cabinet maker. This man lived at Neibirk. Frederick being of a rather small size, I heard my mother say more than once, the first work Frederick was put to was to build a platform for himself by his bench he was to work on to raise himself high enough to work on the bench. This I heard him tell himself on several different occasions in speaking of his boyhood days when he went to his trade. Again I heard my mother say he got so homesick he thought he would die (he was always called his mother's boy which was no discredit to him at all). He wrote home to father that he wanted to come home, did not want to learn a trade. My father seemed to understand just what was wrong. He wrote back to him and said all right if you don't want to learn a trade you don't need to stay, but as there is nothing for you to do at home here, your younger brothers that are coming on can do all the work that is to do at home, you can get a job driving the Millers mules, and then you get to our town every few days to see each other. On your way home, you stop there and you can bring the mules right along, thus saving yourself the extra walk home and back to the mill again. This mill was on the way to Neibirk and Frederick

would have to pass by it. In order to make this mule driver more clear in the minds of the persons who may chance to read this history, I will here explain it. Millers in that country mostly kept a lot of mules and jackasses, these were driven around over the surrounding country ~~xxx~~ of the mill. Any person having rye or oats to send to the mill to be ground into flour would wait until the millers driver with his mules would come along, then this grain of whatever kind was put on the backs of one of these mules, thus it was carried to the mill to be ground. In order that there be no trouble of the bags falling off, a sort of saddle was first strapped on the mules back and on this saddle the bag was laid and tied fast. When the grain was ground that was gathered upon the trip of the section of the country they had gone over, the flour was placed on the backs of the mules again, and was delivered to the customer. And so these mules were driven over the surrounding country each day of the week, a job that was despised by near everybody and this job my father wrote to Frederick was open to him if he wanted to come home and not stay to learn the trade he had put him to. I want to further say here that these mules were well trained, the one largest one always traveled in the lead. Around his neck was a large string of bells, something on the order of our sleighbells. These could be heard for quite a distance to let people know that the millers mules were coming to get their grain if they had any to send to the mill. The mules would travel one behind the other, they all seemed to know their places, the one that was number three would never be seen taking number two place, and so on. Whenever the leader would stop all would stop and none of them would ever be seen out of line, so you can see that even a mule can be taught to know his place, even if he can't be trusted at both ends all the time. Frederick, however, decided he would rather stay and learn the trade he was put to than to take the job of a mule driver. He made good use of his talent as he became a ~~xxxx~~ splendid workman. He could do as good work as any man dare do and just as much. While he was rather small to stand up against much larger men to work against, yet when night came Frederick's work in quantity as well as quality, was second to none in the shop he worked in.

I never heard of anything of special mention happened during the three years of his apprenticeship. He was allowed to come home some two or three times a year so that his homesickness soon wore away. Anyhow the second year there was another of his brothers to join him to learn the same trade that was company for him of which we will speak later on. After his three years of apprenticeship he continued to work for the same master for another year, thus working four years for the one man. <sup>134</sup> Then he came home to spend a little while at home. Then he started out as a traveling journeyman cabinet maker but that did not last very long. While he was at Stuttgart he was standing around watching the soldiers marching and drilling. And officer of the day insulted him by reaching in his pocket and taking out his pass and looking over it and saw the pass was made for Frederick to go to another town. When the officer handed his pass back to him he told him I give you fifteen minutes to get out of town, after that if I catch you around here, I will arrest you. This insulted Frederick. Instead of going to that town, he had his pass changed for home and then made up his mind to follow his brother ernst to America. Just what time of the year it was I can not say, if I ever heard him say I have forgotten it. Just here I will not say any more on this part of the history but will take it up again in connection with the history of the next brother who came along to America with Frederick. He came to "ercersburg soon after coming to America, he found he could do much better at the carpenter trade than he could at the trade of cabinetmaker, so he got to work for a boss carpenter

by the name of Gould. He was doing a great deal of work for the college which was in a flourishing condition at that time. He helped build both of the society halls that used to stand at the upper end of town. One stood where Dr. Varden's home now stands, the other where Jeff Deckert's home now stands, owned now by Harry Byron, and some years ago this hall was built by the school district and was used as a public school for quite a number of years. Frederick, I am told, always was a lover of ladies so it was not very long after coming to Mercersburg his weakness got the better of him and he made progress in that direction. He made the acquaintance of a young lady by the name of Charlotte Hart who he married November 30, 1847. To this union there were born nine children - Anna Barbara, John David Scott, Emma Clarkson, Earnest Muhlenberg, Heister, Ellen, ~~xxxxxx~~ Jene Saharah, William Coyle and Lulu Grayson. In about the year 1848 he started work in his own shop. He had all the work he could do. For a few years he went into partnership with Jacob Kreps but this partnership was not pleasant so they separated. He continued by himself until some years afterwards when another of his brothers came to America, John. They went into partnership of which I will speak later on in writing up the history of brother John.

In the spring of 1875 he took over the partnership that at that time existed between Fred and John and he run the hardware store by himself, giving up the carpenter work entirely. His health at this time becoming bad he continued coming to the store everyday until the summer of 1879. He often was away from the store for a week at a time until in the Fall, as the weather got cold and rough, he did not venture out any more. During the winter of 79 and 80 he was confined to his bed entirely until in the Spring, March 8, he died at the age of 56 years.

Frederick was a useful citizen of the town, was much respected, filled quite a number of the different offices of the town, to which he was elected - Town Council, School Director, Justice of the Peace. He was consulted on many subjects and his advice was generally good. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Mercersburg. He joined the Order of Odd Fellows February 18, 1871. This Order turned out in a body to attend his funeral. When the Farmers Bank was organized, he was one of its first directors and continued during the remainder of his life. His widow lived for quite a number of years afterward, she died September 19, 1911. The one child, Sarah, died in the year of                      while yet quite small. He left his family fairly well provided for, having taken out a life insurance policy in the year 1875 for \$5000, made in favor of the widow, the interest of which kept her and the rest of the children in good comfortable quarters. One thing I forgot to mention about Frederick's workmanship, he was far above the average of workmen. He helped make the large columns that stood in front of the two society halls at the upper end of town. There being only one other man besides Fred at that time that was good enough workman to make them. Hence these two carpenters made them all for both buildings. He also helped build the German Reformed Church, ~~xxx~~ helped make the pews that were in this church up until the year 1896 when these pews were taken out and replaced by the present ones.

He helped make the columns that supported the gallery in that church, said gallery was torn out that same year 1896. Mr. H. Spangler bought them, the columns, at the timber sale, afterwards used them for a porch which stands in front of his home this day. At this writing only five of the children are living, three of the girls Ella, Jene and Lulu; two boys, Heister and William. The two girls, Anna Rebecca and Emma Clarkson, both died while yet single; Scott, the eldest of the boys was married to a Miss Deibert. They raised quite a number of children, all died while young, but one girl Edna. She is living today, married to some man in Omaha, the widow going out there with the daughter soon after the death of Scott. Both are living there today. Heister went west and settled down in Indianapolis. He married and has a family of children, mostly girls. However, one son which he named after the grandfather, Frederick Christian. This son was married but is now a widower, his wife dying several years ago. William was married to a Miss Slichter and raised a family of six children, four boys, two girls. One of the girls is married to a Stoner, they now live near Harrisburg. The rest of the children are living at home with their parents in Mercersburg.

Lulu, the youngest of the girls, (Fred's girls), was married to Clarence Whitmore several years ago. They are living here in the town of Mercersburg but have no children. The two remaining girls, Ella and Jene, are keeping house in the old home, never were married. I suppose never will be. They never connected themselves with any church or taking part in anything outside or away from their home. Both Scott and Heister joined the Odd Fellows, Marshall Lodge. But let themselves run out and were suspended for non payment of dues. Both also joined the Lutheran Church near Mercersburg but let themselves run out there. Hence when Scott died, he had no connection with either church or Lodge and I don't believe Heister takes any interest in church affairs. And I know he never ~~renewed~~ renewed his membership in the Lodge.

The third child ~~xxx~~ born to these parents was another son. This one they named Christian David. He was born December 12, 1824. He got his education in the same schoolhouse as his two older brothers, Ernst and Frederick. Nothing of any great importance taking place during his school years until he was 14 years of age. He was confirmed thus ended his school days. He chose for his trade the same as that of his brother Frederick, hence he was bound out to the same master at Neibirk Frederick was. Then they were company to each other. I was often told by some of the other brothers that Chris was always of a lively nature, either whistling or singing, and his company was much sought after on account of his lively disposition. I never learned of anything special taking place during the three years he was bound out to this master. He evidently did not like the place very much as he would not stay any longer than three years he was bound for, altho his master wanted him to stay. So as Chris did not stay both he and Fred started home together. After spending some time at home, they both started away from home, traveling over the country to hunt work. When they got as far as Stuttgart one evening, they turned in their passes to the landlord they were stopping with. Some time during the night, the officer of the night came around and gathered up the passes from the different lodging houses and took them to headquarters where during the night a man came around that was on a hunt of a cabinet maker. So he selected Chris to work for him, his pass was held by this cabinet maker and Chris got work. Fred's pass was returned to the lodging house where, in the morning, Fred would get it. From there he would have to start out by himself. He scarcely knew which was to go but finally decided to go to Karlsruhe but he was not very anxious to start out by himself. He was long about getting started, he was in no

hurry, hence he got himself into trouble with the officer of the day. I spoke of in giving the history of Fred, when this officer insulted him by taking his pass so abruptly out of his pocket and telling him he must leave town in a certain length of time, or be arrested, instead of going to Karlsruhe, he went to the proper officer and had his pass changed to go home. But before he started for home, he went to the shop where Chris was working and told him how the officer had insulted him, so he had his pass changed to go home instead of to Karlsruhe and at once get ready to come to America. So Chris too decided to come home and go along with him to America after his bound time was up, which was two weeks.

Just here I will explain more about the passes and bound time, which will make matters more clear in the minds of the ones who may chance to read this history. A young man going to a trade is bound out to his master for three years, during these three years the young man is altogether under the supervision of the man he is bound out to. This however is not altogether one sided. The master that is willing to take the boy is as well bound to the boy's father or parents or gaurdian, as it may be the case, to use every effort to learn the boy the trade and everything belonging to it. At the end of three years, as the bound time draws to a close, the boy has to make what is called a master piece, which in this case of my two brothers, cabinet makers, be some nice piece of furniture. This piece of furniture will be examined as to its workmanship and finish in every particular by a committee of such workmen having been appointed by proper authorities of the country for that purpose. If this piece of furniture or whatever kind of work the masterpiece should consist of, passes inspection, the young man is set free from the bond, and is given a pass to travel over the country to hunt work at his trade. This pass he must take with him and no one can molest him. Should, however, his masterpiece the young man made not pass or bear inspection, he is bound over for another year. If then his masterpiece should not pass, he will not get this pass and he can't follow this trade that he tried to fit himself for anywhere in that country. After, however, a young man having received his pass which is in the shape of a small passbook, in German, called wanderbuch, as he started out say from home to go to some other town to look for work, he first takes his pass to a proper officer, which we call justice of the peace, or some other officer, which be connected with the government, and has this officer write in this pass - this young man is going from this home to such a town, naming it, for the purpose to find work. As he arrives in this town and after looking around for work at his trade, and finds none, he again goes to a proper officer and has him to write in - this young man arrived in this town at such a time to find work but found none, he now starts to go to such a town for this same purpose, again naming the town he expects to go to, and so on until he succeeds in getting work. After receiving work, he hands his pass to the man that gives him work, who holds it until the man has no more work, or otherwise until the young man wants to stop and hunt work elsewhere.

In case the young man as he is out traveling hunting work stops over night at any lodging house or hotel, he must turn in his pass to the land-lord in the evening. Sometime during the evening, probably at such an hour when all travelers are in, the officer of the night comes around, takes charge of all the passes and takes them to headquarters for examination and if found to be all right, all the passes are returned early in the morning. Should however a flaw be found in any one of them an officer is sent to the lodging house where the pass was gotten and as the young man calls for said pass, the officer arrests him and takes him to headquarters for examination. where he will have to give an account of himself, on

whatever this flaw may be based. Should the young man ever commit any crime, either great or small, this is written in the pass. Should he land in jail for any time, half hour, or week, or month, or year, this is written and every one can see this that gets hold of the pass until this pass is filled. When the pass is full the young man turns it into the government and receives another. He can never get another until he hands the last one in, or as the case may be, until it is full. Again as the young traveler goes over the country, as he stops overnight at a hotel or lodging house, he turns in his pass to the landlord. If there is any person in town that wants a workman, as in case of these two brothers of mine, Fred and Chris, cabinet makers, he makes his wants known to police headquarters. And as the passes come in for inspection, and cabinet makers pass comes in, this pass is held until next morning as this young man calls for his pass from the landlord, the landlord turns it over to an officer, who takes the young man to the shop where he gets work. Here he must stay two weeks and work whether he wants to or not. But after the two weeks are up, and he still wants to go farther, the boss is bound to give him his pass so the young man can go farther. But all this is written in this pass book for every one's inspection that happens to get hold of the pass and has authority to see it.

I have tried to make this pass business as plain as I could, so every one reading this can fully understand all about the young man's travels in Germany. I should however say further on this pass business if a young man traveling has his pass made to go to a certain town and afterwards changes his mind to go to some other town, he must first go and have his pass changed that instead of going to the first named town, he wants to go to the other town. Unless he does this and some officer finds him going in another direction than his pass calls for, he is arrested and liable to go to jail.

Now we will go back where brother Chris got work at Stuttgart and Fred had his pass changed from going to Karkarub to his home, and make ready to come to America. He first went to see Chris and told him what had happened, how he had been insulted and he had his pass changed for hom and was going to make preparations to come to America. Chris told him that he would join him as soon as his two weeks were up, which he did. Altho his boss was very much pleased with him yet nothing could hold Chris there, he wanted to go home and come along with Fred to America. My father not being a moneyed man, having considerable experience in many ways in the raising of a large family and paying out money to get trades for his boys, this I forgot to mention before, in that country you must pay to have your boys get a trade.

A boy gets his boarding but he must clothe himself, pay a fixed amount besides, so doing this, it kept my father short of funds, particularly at this time, having other boys at other places at a trade as we will find later on. There was a man by the name of Homan coming to America from our part of the country who had more money than he needed to bring himself and his family over, so with this man Homan, my father and two brothers Fred and Chris went into an agreement. This man Homan to furnish the money to bring them to America. After coming over, they were to join in and work together



until they had this money paid back. Brother Ernst who was then working at Marticville, Lancaster County, was also to join in and help pay this money back. All this was carried out to the letter. It seems this man Homan had some friends living about St. Thomas, Franklin County, he naturally would want to come there, Fred and Chris came with him but as there was no work for them at St. Thomas, and Mercersburg being in a flourishing condition, the Seminary being in building at that time and many other buildings in connection with it, Fred and Chris came over to Mercersburg and got work, turning over their money as fast as they earned it and could spare from their natural expenses to this Mr. Homan to pay back what father had borrowed to bring these boys over to America.

Brother Ernst at that time had a little money saved up and expected to get it and turn it in towards this but when he came to get the money, the party having it would not pay and never did pay it to him. So Ernst started on foot, walked from Lancaster up to St. Thomas to tell his brothers of his misfortune. There at that time was a smithshop about one and a half miles below St. Thomas. A man by the name of Cable worked there, he gave Ernst work so he stayed there until all this money was paid back to Mr. Homan, then Ernst went back to Lancaster County again where he lived then all his life, and ended his days there. Just here I want to say he made a trip to Indiana sometime about 55 or 56, he bought a very fine horse while out there. When he was ready to come home, he rode the horse all the way home to Lancaster. Brother Ernst was the only Waidlich in the Army during the Civil War. During the invasion when the 100-day men were called out, he enlisted, came up thru Franklin County and his regiment was encamped quite awhile at Hagerstown but we, his brothers, here in Mercersburg, did not know it until after he had gone home again and was discharged.

Now to get back to the history of my brother Chris. He was perfectly satisfied to stay in Mercersburg while this debt was hanging over them and had to be paid back but as soon as that obligation was satisfied and no longer hanging over him, he became restless. He saw that this was not the place for him so he tried to get Fred to go with him and they go further West. But Fred had lost his heart to one of Mercersburg's fair maidens, hence did not go. So then the separation came. Chris, in company with a man by the name of John Barger started on foot for Pittsburgh. After getting that far, which at that time was considered far west, John Karpers (Barger) courage failed him and he turned back towards Mercersburg, leaving brother Chris to paddle on alone. He kept on going until he finally reached Fort Wayne, there he stopped for a little while. About twenty miles west, there at that time started up a little place they called Columbia City, so Chris turned his face towards this city, then only about one-half dozen houses. The Indians still living right around there, peaceable of course. Here is where Chris drove his stakes, and stayed the rest of his life. He helped cut away the timber where the town now stands. He worked at his trade right along but when work got scarce at his trade, he would turn his hand to anything else he could find to do. Whenever he had gathered a few dollars together he would invest it in some manner, buy land or anyway he would consider it to be a safe investment. He finally quit his trade and went to storekeeping, dry goods, grocery, hardware, or into anything else he could see he could make a dollar. In his day he saw the town grow until today I suppose there is ten thousand inhabitants. The Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad passing through the



town help to bring business, started up flouring mills which Chris took an interest in and helped him make more money. In the after years of his business life he was principally engaged in the hardware business which he was very successful in. I had the pleasure of clerking in his store from December 1, 1871 to May 1, 1872 of which I will speak later on in writing up the history of my own life. He gathered up a great deal of property, not only in his own city, but in other towns, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis also farming lands. Sometime after 1878 he sold his hardware store to a couple of parties. He took a farm as part payment for his store but for some reason these parties could not make a success of the business, hence he had to take the store back in order to save himself of losing too much money but soon after sold it again. This time he did not have to take it back. From then on he devoted his entire time to looking after his stocks and bonds and other possessions he had accumulated.

He told me once when there was such great excitement in Kansas City business seemed to be booming up and he was so much pleased, that he had decided to move out but when he came back to Columbia City, his family objected to his going, so he decided to stay where he was. At one time he went into partnership with a man by the name of Thomas Sanson in a Woolen Mill. While this partnership was in existence, they invested some money in some land near Seattle, Washington, but as Mr. Sanson could not raise his share of the money to pay the taxes, Chris bought him out, hence it belongs to his estate, all of it this day. It has been quite an expense to keep it all these years but I understand has grown to be quite valuable, considered to be worth at least \$75,000. He was very active in his church, took part in all its progress and contributed much towards its success. He never forsok his faith of his mother's church, that of a Lutheran. He was able to make as fine a prayer as you would expect to hear from a much more educated man and he was always in his place at all the church meetings whether Sundays or weekdays, and never refused to lend his hand at whatever he could do or was called upon to do.

He united himself with the Order of Odd Fellows sometime during the 60s, and continued to be a member to the day of his death. Took a great interest in the Order. He was elected as District Deputy Grand Master several terms and I am told he filled the office very creditably. He was twice married, his first wife's name being Anna Moore. To this girl he was married in the year 1847, to this union were born two children, a son they called William H and a daughter Mary Elizabeth. This first wife not being very stout did not live very long. She died in the year 1854, February 2nd. He again married, this time he married a widow, Mrs. Bixby. Her maiden name being Elizabeth Myers, proved to be a good helpmate to him. There never were any children to this union. William H, the son born to the first wife, did not live to be of any age. In the year 1871 he was married to a young woman of Columbia City by the name of Jane Snyder, they lived very happy together, the few years they were allowed to live together. His health soon left him and he commenced to doctor with all the doctors he could hear of that he thought could help him but nothing seemed to help him. He died in the hospital at Indianapolis of hemorages of the chest. His widow remained to be a widow for quite a good many years but in the course of some years, married again to a man by the name of . The few years how, ever that they lived together could not have been very happy, as she soon lost her mind and got to be a terrible charge to her husband. She eventually had to be taken to the Asylum. When she died, her body was cremated and laid to rest in the cemetery where her first husband William

is buried in Columbia City. Her father, mother, brother, father-in-law, mother-in-law are all buried there awaiting to be called on that resurrection day. His daughter Mary was also married in the year 1871 to a man by the name of Olin Harley. This marriage did not prove to be a very happy one, they soon separated by their own accord, and in the course of years both married again. This time Mollie married a man by the name of George Eichholtz, he was a widower, having a family of grown up children. Mollie and her husband are living together now at 2320 Broadway, Indianapolis, Indiana.

After Chris went out of business, he took the world about as easy as he well could, he had gathered up quite a fortune. I never heard just how much he was estimated to be worth when he died. It may have reached the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. He died Sunday morning, April 13, 1902. He was one of the pioneers of the city where he died. At the time of his death there were then only 3 others living in the city that lived there when he first came there in the year 1845. Thus he lived there in that city fifty-seven years. He thus lived a little over 77 years. He had a large funeral, all business houses closed up during the time of the funeral. Odd Fellows had full charge of the ceremony, the body was clothed in his Canton uniform, the casket was cooperlined - cost \$500 - his body was laid to rest in a vault that cost \$1600 - there being room enough in this vault for both first and second wife, also both of his children. His second wife lived some years after, she spent lots of her husband's hard earned cash, gave lots of it away, but all to her own relations, on her own side of the house, the Myers, where Chris often told me, he never wanted very much of his money to go. But he neglected making a will, hence near half of his estate went to his widow, and is being spent very lavishly right along by her nephew and niece, and it seems they can't get enough although the widow has been dead quite a number of years, yet they have never been able to get her estate settled up, just because they like to keep it open, probably thinking they can get more money out of it, the land at Seattle whenever it gets sold, the one-half of it belongs to the heirs of the widow, the Myers.

Shde died September 7, 1913, at the age of 32 years, having been born Dec. 12, 1830 at Vanaburg Stark County, Ohio. She realized for sometime before her death that she could not get well, hence she made all preparations she could for the funeral, selecting the pallbearers, what hymns were to be sung, and even where the casket was to stand, while people came in to view the body, and where the clothing were to be found she had prepared to be buried in. We trust she had all arrangement effected as well when she came to the next world. She belonged to a family of 12 children. She was the last one of the twelve to pass out, all others having died in years gone by. She at one time was a very large person, weighing over 300 pounds, but I am told when she died she had almost gone to nothing, as the saying goes, a mere shadow. She never had any children.

The fourth child born was another son, this son they called Jacob Karl, he was born sometime during the year 1826. Of this son I can tell less than any other of my brothers and sisters. He got

his education in the same town and house his older brothers and sisters for theirs, at the age of fourteen he was bound out to learn a trade. He chose for his trade that of a shoemaker, don't know where or in what town he learned his trade. He seemed to have been different from his other brothers. After he got away from home, he did not come home very often, but finally got to France, from there he wrote to my father for some money. He said he did not have quite enough money to bring him to America, as he had a desire to come over and join the rest of his brothers over here, he having learned from letters from home, the three older brothers had come to America. Father sent him what money he asked for, but that was the last that was heard from him for nine years. Then he wrote again from France, this time telling of his disobedience, instead of coming to America after he received the money father had sent, he joined the French Army and went along with it to Africa, where in a battle he had been wounded in the head. But the ball was too near spent, it did not kill him, so he was sent back with other wounded soldiers to France. This was the time he wrote the second letter. This I can remember well, I was then a small boy at home. I brought this letter from the P.O. and I had a feeling, as I remember well, that this letter was from Karl and so it proved to be.

My father again answered right away but never received any reply. Whether he died then or whatever became of him, we never learned. Of course we are satisfied he is now dead, he would now be about 90 years old if he were living, and we don't think such could be. This brother I never saw, he having left home before I was born, hence we must look forward to our meeting each other in the next world, where we hope to meet to part no more.

The fifth child born was another son, this son they called Gottlieb. He was born Feb. 17, 1828. He started to school at the age of 6 and graduated from the day school at the age of 14, same as his other older brothers, he wanted to go on to school, to some college, and fit himself for a teacher, but my father I suppose did not feel able to send him to a college, further I am told he said none of my boys shall be a teacher if he can keep them from it. So Gottlieb was bound out to a master to learn a trade, he chose that of a locksmith, he learned this trade in a town by the name of Aldensteig. I can only remember of him at one time in our home, as he was going away. I don't know if this was when he was leaving home to come to America, or whether it was just when he was leaving home after spending a little time at home. This town of Aldensteig was as I can remember probably about 8 miles from Aichholden. He served his three years of apprenticeship, but soon after getting free, he decided to come to America sometime during the year 1845 or 46, very likely 46. He came direct to Lancaster, to brother Ernst, commenced working at blacksmithing, as the trade of locksmith was of no good in this country. The kind of locks he was used to making were not used in this country, but as he was used to working in iron, it did not take him long to be able to do all kinds of work, as ere long he was as good in regular blacksmith work as he was at the trade he learned in Germany as a locksmith.

In the course of a few years Ernst and Gottlieb went into partnership, both working very hard as they had lots of work to do. In the

year of 1855, April 15, Gottlieb was married to a Miss Susannah Wilson. To this union were born 3 children, Anna, Katharine and Ida. These three girls are all living and married. Anna married a man by the name of Binkley, and is living today near Safe Harbor, Lancaster County. She raised a family of children, I don't know how many boys or girls. Katharine was married to a man by the name of Henry Clark, they I am told are living in a small town by the name of Willow Street, they have some children, can't say how many, or either boys or girls. They are farmers. Ida married a man by the name of . Don't know much about these people. I never saw either of them or never heard much about them. Sometime during the summer of 1866 Gottlieb's wife died of consumption, brother John and I going down to the funeral. From then on he had considerable trouble in raising his children, all being girls, they needed the care of a mother. He tried to get a housekeeper, he found this to be a troublesome way of getting along. He quit blacksmithing and got to butchering, this did not last. He tried blacksmithing on his own hook. He got tired of that. He finally got places for his girls and he quit housekeeping. He himself principally making his home with Brother Ernst, working when it suited him.

At one time he helped get up a brass band in Marticsville and for some time was its leader, he finally stopped it. After the death of Brother Ernst in 1874, he looked after Brother Ernst business. Settled up his estate through the following year, he brought Ernst widow and 2 children up to Mercersburg and here he just lived with them. After this widow moved back with her two children to Lancaster, Gottlieb stayed here in Mercersburg, making his home with Brother John where he tried to make himself useful, as we will learn later on. He made quite a number of trips to Lafayette, Indiana, spent part of year out there each time, he invested some money there in a property, but I don't think it ever paid him, never realized very much from it. Finally during the last year of his life he spent much time with his children at Lancaster. His health not being at all good any more, he was subject to dizzy spells, I suppose coming from a weak heart. The winter of 1900 and 1901 he spent mostly with his son-in-law H. Clark. On a Monday evening, February 25, 1901, while out at the barn he felt one of these dizzy spells coming on him. He hurried to get to the home, when he got as far as the porch, he sat down on a rocking chair that was standing there. In this he sat down and died. He had connected himself with the Order of Odd Fellows, a lodge at Rawlinsville, Lancaster County. I never heard whether he was in good standing at the time of his death. While here in Mercersburg, he connected himself with the Lutheran Church, the Spirit of Religion taking hold of him during a religious wave that spread over the county that year of 1876.

He was married the second time to Anna Mary McFadden, a young girl of about 17 year of age, September 19, 1894. To this union there was born one child, a son. This union however was of short duration, she died the following year. After the death of the mother, the child was taken by her sister, Mrs. Joseph Hollingshead. She raised it and today are living somewhere out in Ohio not very far from Pittsburg, and I hear the boy is doing fine. Gottlieb was 73 years old when he died, and was buried in Lancaster County along side of his first wife.

The sixth child born being a daughter, this spoiled my father's

premium. It was customary at that time in that country when six sons were born in succession on one and the same family, the King would give a premium. The daughter was welcome all the same. They called her Mary after my mother. She was born January 19, 1830. She staid around her home, started to school at the age of 6 years and was graduated at the age of 14. When she was about 18 years of age there was a family by the name of Birkley which were near neighbors of ours, came to America. Mary took anotion to come along. I well remember the night she left home. Strange it seemed but near all the folks leaving that country and coming to America, either left sometime during the night or very early in the morning. All started on foot, walking, as that was about the only way people traveled in that country.

Their baggage of course was hauled to come place where it could be shipped by railroad to some seaport, mostly to in France. She came direct to Lafayette, Indiana, with the family of Birkley she left home with; while here she made the acquaintance of a man by name of Frederick Newman. To this man she was married in September 1850. They changed places, moved several times. Once I remember they moved and lived for awhile in Columbus, Ohio. Just how long they staid there or what year it was, I don't know. They also lived in Crawfordville, Indiana, for awhile, but finally they got settled down again in Lafayette again, where in due course of time both died and are buried. Fred Newman followed the business of beer brewing, and after he stopped that, in his later years he kept a saloon. Thus he was connected with the business of drink all his life, either in the manufacture of it or sale of it.

The Nemans raised a family of children, nine in all, both boys and girls. I don't remember of ever seeing all of them. One son, Frederick, I think the oldest one, was killed on the R.R. in the yards of Indianapolis, Oct. 10, 1892, aged 37 years. Another son is a cripple, yet he is able to go around, he walks lame, the trouble being in his hip. He enlisted in the Army during the Spanish American War, was drummer, but never left the U.S. As soon as the war was over, he was honorably discharged, and is living at this writing at Lafayette, Indiana. Just what business he is engaged in, I don't know. Another son by the name of John is living there this day, he is working in a lumber yard. There were other boys but can't say anything about them. A daughter Mary, she has some trouble in her hip, was lame from childhood. She married a man by the name of Mitchell, he is a veteran of the Civil War. He was Captain of Company D and Beach Major of 81st Pa. Volunteer Infantry.

This husband and wife are both living this day in Lafayette, Indiana, the mother is considerably crippled up. While she was lame having hard time getting along, some years ago she had a fall, which crippled her up more from which she has never recovered. Another daughter Susan, she married a man by the name of Moore, who is an architect living in Indianapolis. They seem to be getting along very well, have a nice home. One of their daughters married an insurance man, who died a few years after their marriage. She however being a very beautiful girl married a R.R. man from New York, he being very wealthy. They are now living in New York State smewhere.

Another daughter by the name of Tena Newman married a man by the name of Kimmel. He is engaged in the book business and paper hanging. He is a fine man. They own their own home and seem to live very happy together. They have some children I think about four, who I learn are all engaged in an honorable business. Their daughter Stella for some years was in Berlin, studying German. She is now teaching German in some High School in Indiana.

Another daughter was born to this union they named Agatha. This child has been a charge ever since its birth, I think the trouble is water on the brain. She is now in the hospital at Fort Wayne. As long as her mother lived she kept her and cared for her at home, but with the passing of the mother it suited no one to open their door and give her a home. Hence she was taken to the hospital. The other of these children I don't know anything about. Fred Newman in his day was a great sportsman, a great hunter. One time while his brother John and he were coming home from one of their hunting trips, coming across the Wabash River in a boat, Fred laid his gun against the side of the boat, which had a load of shot in it, I suppose the rocking of the boat caused the gun to slip, and fall to the bottom of the boat. In falling the gun was discharged, and the load of shot went thru Fred's elbow, making it necessary to amputate the arm, just above the elbow. Thus he was a cripple the rest of his days, wonderful however he got used to do without this one arm. After he got well he did not give up hunting, he would load and shoot as well with one hand and arm as most men do with two. This I saw him do myself.

At one time, the winter of 55 and 56, I was on a little hunting trip with him, of this I will speak later on. He was rather a kind hearted man, very large and able bodied. He died Nov. 15, 1889, age .

Sister Mary in size took after my mother. She was small but it seemed nothing could hurt her. She never was sick much. To look at her she was only a shadow yet she outlived all the others that have died yet thus far. She died April 22, 1910, aged 80 years, three months, three days.

The seventh child born was again a son, this one they called John. He was born January 30, 1832. Like the other ones of his brothers and sisters, he started to school when he was six years old and graduated at the age of 14 when he was confirmed and taken into full membership of the church. He did not get much play time. After he was free from school he was sent away from home to learn a trade, chose that of a cabinet maker, same as his brothers Fred and Chris. He went to the same town of Nibirk and was bound to the same master as brother Fred and Chris were. I never heard him say of anything special taking place during the time of his apprenticeship, only once. He and another of the workmen in the shop had been sent to the jail where a prisoner had committed suicide by hanging himself to the doorknob of his cell. When the body was found it was cold and stiff, hence it would be difficult to get it straightened out in order to lay it in the coffin. After laying the body in the coffin, the knees would stand up, and in order to get them straightened out, it was necessary to cut the leaders on the back part. Then John jumped on the knees to bear them down. When the top part of the body rose up looking John in the face. This frightened him and both the men took to their heels and ran but the boss being in the next room, made

them go back and finish the job of putting the man in the coffin and close it up. I wonder how many of us would not have done likewise had a dead man rise up and look at us. He finished his trade in the three years and I heard him say for his masterpiece he made a very fine sideboard something on the order of the old style sideboard that used to be ~~some~~ in our town, and perhaps some few yet. But as he had applied himself to his work, he had no trouble to ~~pass~~. His masterpiece was accepted and he got his pass to travel as a journeyman cabinet maker. His boss however got him to stay and work for him for another year, thus he worked for him four years, same as brother Fred had done. This then made him 18 years of age. Then he started out over that part of the country, he worked awhile in a town by the name of Mannheim, there he crossed the Albo (Elbe ?) ~~XXXX~~ in the snow. He worked some in Karlsruhe and Nagold. He was also in Berlin and a large place called Ulen ? and quite a number of other places, names which I have forgotten. He done more traveling as a journeyman than any of the other brothers. He traveled in this way for three years. Of course he would turn his face towards home sometimes but he would never stay very long at the time in this way.

I learned to know more about him than I did of any other of the brothers. He would come home while I was a boy and naturally took to him more than any other of the brothers. When it came to the close of the year 1852 he had to begin to think more about the future. Next year of 1853 he would be 21 years of age, then he would be subject to go to the army. This of course he would not want to do, so as the year 1852 was drawing to a close, he was making preparations to come to America to join the older brothers. But he was a little too slow about making these preparations. The year 1852 came to a close before he got started. I remember very well we kept him secreted in our home for almost two weeks after the first of January, 1853. No one of the neighbors or anybody outside of our immediate family got to see him or ever found out he was there until the morning of the 9th of January, about four o'clock in the morning, he left home. Oh how cold it was, I never forgot. Snow about 18 inches deep. He had a great time getting out of the Little Kingdom. My father however had his way mapped out, had his agents all along the way. When John had letters from my father which told him what to do until he got to the city of Keel by the river Rhine. There John had a certain street address where he would find a man that kept a small boat who rowed him across the river during the night.

After he got on the other side of the river, he would be safe as he was then in France where King William could not get hold of him anymore. He went to Havre where he took the vessel to come to New York. He was about six weeks on the ocean. When he finally reached New York, he managed to find his way to Lancaster where he met Ernst and Gottlieb. After spending a couple weeks there he came to Mersersburg to brother Fred. Here he started in to work at carpentering with Fred. It was sometime during the month of April when he arrived here. He was then 21 years of age. He worked for Fred several years as he had to learn to talk English before he could get around much in company. He spent much time at home by himself but the young men of the town soon became attached to him and hunted up his company, and not only the young men but the ladies as well. When three years later on the 8th of March he was married to one of the ladies of the town by the name of Maria Jane Spangler. After he was married a short time, he took a trip west, got as far as Iowa City where he worked in a shop for some months but of course living in Iowa City with a young wife living in the East did



not go so well so John decided to come back to Pennsylvania to his wife. After coming again to Mercersburg Fred and John went into partnership and they carried on the carpenter business together. They both worked hard early and late, not only around Mercersburg but outside of the town, much of it in the Little Cove. Many are the buildings standing over there this day that were built by these two workmen. Not only did they build the houses but worked out all of the material out of the rough, worked the flooring by hand, made all the sash, doors, windows and door frames. In fact everything needful about the house was worked out of the rough lumber by hand. The three churches that are standing this day over there, two Lutheran and one Methodist, were all built by Fred and John. They seemed to get along very well together until in the Spring of 1865 they separated.

John went West, got out as far as Gates City, did not stay out there very long until he came back to Mercersburg where he took up carpentry on his own hook. Seemed to get along very well until in the Spring of 1867 Fred and John again formed a partnership. This time they bought the hardware store of Andrew Coyle who wanted to leave town and move to Chambersburg. So they carried on the hardware store in connection with the carpentry business. This seemed to work very well for some years, made some money. They bought the Col. Shirks property, paid \$5000 for it. They moved their hardware store from up street, where H.B. Krebs Drugstore now is and building owned by John Kreps, down into their own building, into the room that is now occupied by the Rhea Dry Goods (Brothers). That year of 1868 they built a house at Greencastle for a Mrs. Morton besides other buildings, also the Lutheran Church in Mercersburg, that is the outside part. Fred built the Presbyterian Church in McConnellsburg.

During the following winter the pews were worked out and made for both churches. Both churches were completed during the early summer of 1869. The rest of the year the work was scattered over the country around. The year of 1870 they put up a church at Boonesboro, Maryland. Also one for the Menonites which stands along the Pike between this and Greencastle or rather this side of Upton. During the year of 1871 the house was built for John Orth, afterwards owned by the Leshers, and now owned by Bradley Witherspoon. That same year they built a Lutheran Church at Bedford. It was near Christmas when that contract was finished. The following year of 1872 they got a large contract for building the Bedford County Alms House, the contract price being \$42,000.

The years of 73 and 74 they were engaged in building around the surrounding county and towns. In 1875 they built a church, Lutheran, in Greencastle. That was the last contract work they done. During the winter of 75 and 76, these two brothers again dissolved partnership, Fred taking over the hardware store to himself. That year John and I went into partnership. We ran the carpentry business together and done quite an amount of work, some for butcher George Steiger, the Lutheran Parsonage and considerable other work. Some for my father-in-law, A.J. North. We were busy all the year, next Spring of 1877 John formed a partnership with Samuel McKinney and they carried on a grocery and drygoods in the Adam Steiger room now occupied by Gipe and Oyler Hardware. This did not prove a very profitable business altho a few years afterwards they dissolved, John taking the business himself. In this drygoods business he was assisted by his older brother Gottlieb who seemed to take as much interest in the business as if he were a partner in it himself. His only son Harry was a bookkeeper. He did not find this business very profitable so decided to sell out this business which he did the early part of the year 1885 to the Rhea Brothers, John and McClain.



After disposing of this business, he turned his attention to politics, he got the nomination and was elected as County Commissioner. It was said at the time that he got every vote in Warren Township but ONE. As his term expired he came out again for the same office but was defeated at the nomination, then for a time he was out of business entirely. In the Spring of 1888 he went into a business up at the Mountain, above the Gap, but he even got tired of it and got out of it again as soon as he well could. In this business he was assisted by his brother Gottlieb, he stayed up there about all the time after he quit manufacturing, and sold the stock out.

About the year, in the fall of 1899, he went into partnership with his son Harry, and they bought the flouring mill at Mercersburg, which they run until his death. Even this did not prove to be a paying proposition, they spent considerable money repairing and putting in new machinery, but when they came to sell it, they merely got first cost for it. All they spent in repairing was lost. He died January 10, Sunday afternoon, two o'clock, 1904, at the age of 71 years, 11 months, 10 days. Had he died the day before Jan. 9, it would have been on the anniversary day of leaving his father's home in coming to America, 51 years.

He was a lifelong member of the Lutheran Church of Mercersburg, since his arrival in America. Soon after coming to Mercersburg he united with the membership here, and at one time when many of the Germans of the town went over to the Reformed Church, he was one of a few to stand by his own Lutheran Church. He was one of the main spokes in the building of this Lutheran Church building. It was built according to his own plans, as also was the parsonage some years later. He was an officer of the church right along until a few years before he died. He joined the Order of Odd Fellows Jan. 12, 1851. He continued to be a member until his death, having filled about all the different offices in the Lodge. At the time of his death he was the treasurer of the Lodge; ~~He~~ ~~Chambersburg~~ ~~George Washington~~ ~~#143~~ joined the Free Masons Lodge in Chambersburg, George Washington #143, about the year 1878 and was a life member of said Lodge at the time of his death, having attained the degree of Past Master by Dispensation. His wife Maria J. Spangler Waidlich is living today Jan. 12, 1916. Now 80 years of age.

To this union there were born 4 children, Anna Mary, Harry S., Murray Florence Kate. Two of this number died in childhood, Anna Mary at the age of six years, and Murray at the age of three years, in August 1862, both having died of throat trouble. They died only one day apart, hence both were buried at the same time in one grave. Harry was sick at the same time with the same disease but he got well. Kate was not born until some years later. Harry was married in the year 1882, to Susan Cromer, a daughter of the man who cut 13 acres of wheat on one day from sunup to sun down. He also was the first conductor of this South Penn. Railroad, coming from Chambersburg to Richmond, and continued as such until his health failed, and he was compelled to quit railroad-ing. To this union, Harry and Sue, were born four children, four boys, Tom Linn Spangler, Donald, Ernest. The two older Tom Linn and Spangler, died in their fourth, one in Dec. 18, the other Spangler in June 18, both of throat trouble, as Harry's sister and brother had years before, the other two boys have grown up to young manhood and no doubt will make their mark in the world if they live.

Donald today is a graduate of our Public High School, Mercersburg Academy

and today is a student at State College. Ernest is also a graduate of Mercersburg High School and bids fair to graduate from from Mercersburg Academy this Spring in June 1916 if he lives. The father today is holding the position of teller in the Farmers Bank of Mercersburg. He was postmaster for six years, being appointed by President Cleaveland under his second administration, he succeeded M. S? , serving from 1892 to 1898. Then he was succeeded by James Agnew, who served nine years.

Harry also had charge of the Lutheran Church Choir for many years having gone in the choir when but a young man, and has had charge of the music all these years. He spent one year at Gettysburg College, but came home to assist his father when he went into the drygoods business with Samuel McKinney, hence never returned to Gettysburg as a student.

The daughter Kate married a man by the name of Frank Mears, a salesman. They live in Baltimore, the mother makes her home with her two children, the summer months in Mercersburg, the winter months in Baltimore.

The eighth child born was again a daughter, this one they named Eva Katharine, she like the rest and older of her brothers and sisters, started to school when she was 6 years of age, and was graduated at the age of 14. This daughter was born the year of 1834, can't say what month or what day of the month. After she graduated from Public School, she lived and worked around among the people of the town, to help along with the making of the living. She eventually grew tired of this and at about the age of nineteen, in the Spring of 1853, in company with her next younger sister, she came to America (of this younger sister we will speak later). She went direct to Lafayette, Indiana, where her older sister Mary was living at that time. Of course there again she worked in other people's kitchens, she had no trouble to find places. She was a good girl and loved by every one that she became acquainted with, she was a pretty girl and had lots of men admirers, good young men and men of wealth, but she seemed not to be in any hurry about tying herself to any one man and be married. She was considered one of the best and most graceful dancers of her day. She finally made the acquaintance of a man by the name of Julius Zimmerman. This man seemed to hang to her and would not give her up, give her no rest until she finally married him. They were married at her younger sister's home, who had come to America with her, Christina Zeigler, sometime in the early Spring of 1866, at the age of 32. From the day of her marriage her dark days commenced, she had nothing but trouble. The man she married was a bad man, he not only brought sorrow and trouble to his own household, but by his meanness made trouble between the rest of the sisters and their families, that were at that time living in Lafayette. He turned out to be a widower, had a family of children living in Baltimore of which he never said anything about until after the wedding. I happened to be in Lafayette at the time of the wedding, but soon after I came away, came back to Pa. I suppose it is well I did. I would no doubt have been more or less mixed up in their troubles. Finally after this man had made all the trouble he could among the friends in Lafayette, he took his wife and moved to Sedalia, Missouri, went into the hotel business. Just how they made out there, I never learned, but that is where this sister died no doubt of a broken heart, sometime during the year 1869, at the age of about 35 years. I am told she left one child, a boy by the name of Henry. Just what became of this child or the father, I can't say. He

soon left that place after this sister's death, some say he went to Texas but I have no assurance of that. Some years afterwards I wrote to the town of Sedalia and made inquiry about this man and my sister, through an unknown friend and brother. I learned that such a man had lived there, Zimmerman. His wife died while there, and was buried in an unmarked grave in that cemetery, but if I come there he would be glad to assist me to find some one that lived there then at the time of my sister's death, and probably be able to locate the grave where she sleeps. But I never got to the town, hence she sleeps her long sleep in an unmarked grave, and where she was a stranger among strangers, and neither brother or sister near to close her eyes, or drop one single tear over her remains, but she be no stranger when she came to that heavenly home, as there be a loving father and mother there waiting for her, as well as for the rest of us, and bid us welcome. This sister never came East to Pa. after coming to America, hence she never saw brother Fred after their separation in the home of their father and Mother in Germany in the town of Aichhalden in the year 1841.

All the other brothers that came to America at one time or another, and some several times, got to Lafayette, and got to see each other.

The ninth child born was again a daughter, this one they named Christine Barbara. She was born March 16, 1836, like the older ones of her brothers and sisters, started to school at the age of 6 years, and graduated at the age of 14 years. She too worked out some for other people before coming to America, but not as much as her older sister Kate, as she was not as stout as the others. She was always more frail and sickly than any of the others; when ~~xx~~ sister Kate made up her mind to come to America in 1853, this sister Christina decided to come along, she was then a girl of 17 years of age. Along with Katharine, she came to Lafayette and for the time being made her home with her older sister Mary. After some years she made the acquaintance of a young man by the name of Valentine Zeigler, a carpenter. This man she married June 1857. To them was born three children that are living, Mollie, Katharine and John. Mollie never married. Katharine was married to a man by name of Yeager, they are living in Lafayette, the husband is a druggist. They have one child, a daughter, she is married to a man by the name of Moss(?).

John is also married and follows the trade of a machinist, working in Novinger, Missouri. He used to run a locomotive on the R.Road, but he got tired of that, so he got work in the shop. This he likes better. Mr. Zeigler the father met with a sad accident at one time during the years of the Civil War. He was assisting in raising a large flag pole, when it was part way up, it broke, and the one part falling to the ground struck him in the forehead, which very near cost him his life. But by careful nursing, his life was spared at that time. Some years afterwards, in the year of 1880, June 7, while working for a R.R.Co, he was killed on the R.R. at the age of 45. The mother Tena having died some years before, Sept. 24, 1874. A younger sister that was living at the time in Lafayette, a widow, took charge of the house and raised the family after the death of sister Tena, of which we will speak later on. This sister Tena was aged 38 when she died and is buried in a cemetery in Lafayette beside her husband.

The tenth child was again a daughter, this one they named Eva Mary. She was born sometime during the year of 1839, can't say what day or date. This is the first sister I know very much about from home, all the older ones having left home before I knew very much of this world. She too started to school at the age of six years, and was graduated at the age of fourteen, at which time she like all the rest of her older brothers and sisters was taken into full membership of the Lutheran Church, which she faithfully attended, and lived up to its doctrines to her dying day.

This sister's life was the shortest of any of the family, but from all accounts as much care and trouble was mixed into her short life as many older persons. As my father's days were drawing to a close, it was his request that this sister should remain with mother and see her body laid in the ground. This she did although this brought many hardships to her. She never came to America, while my mother was yet living, and they had such hard times in getting along, an opportunity offered itself for her to get married. This she did in order to get a home for her and mother. This man she married was a miller by trade, by name of John Michael Mast. This must have been sometime during the year 1863 or 64. It was however several years before mother died, and she died in the year 1867. As far as I can learn there was one child, a son, by name of William Henry. Whatever became of this boy, I can't say.

This sister was not long following her mother to the grave, and I learned afterwards she had endless troubles, and no doubt this brought her to an early grave. She died sometime during the year of 1869 or 70. Thus we see that she was the first of the twelve children to pass out, at the age of about 30 years. But from all accounts she trusted in her Lord, as the last words she spoke before her spirit took its flight were Lord Jesus into Thy hands I commit my spirit. She was buried in the same cemetery Mother was buried in Enzthal.

The eleventh child born was again a daughter, this one they named Agatha. She started to school at the age of six years, and was graduated at the age of fourteen. She was born Nov. 23, 1841. She was the first child born in the new schoolhouse. This new school house was built during the years latter part of 1839 - 40, and finished in the early part of 1841. The plan of this house will be shown by a sketch of memory now of almost sixty years ago, by the writer. After graduating from school she stayed home for two years until the early part of the summer. May 21, 1857, she left her native home and came to America. She came direct to the town of Mercersburg, where she stayed until sometime in the Fall, when she went to Lafayette, Indiana, where her three older sisters lived. She made her home principally with the eldest sister Mary.

She made the acquaintance of a man by the name of Fidel Meyer, who she married in February 1862. After they were married they started into business for themselves, conducting a boarding house in connection with keeping a saloon. They seemed to prosper and were making money and saving it, when Meyer took an agency to furnish cash for different shops in the city of Lafayette. Then there is where luck went against him. The miners occasionally would go on a strike, the companies that were to furnish the coal to Meyers, could not furnish

the coal, as they had contracted for, on account of the miners' strike, hence the shops and factories Mayers had contracted with to furnish their coal, had to shut down, and sustain great loss, which loss they came unto Mayers for. Finally Mayers got the coal business settled up, and started into keeping a saloon again, and while he was engaged in fitting up a room, in a basement, he took cold, settled in his lungs, and in the course of about ten days, he died, Jan. 24, 1872, at the age of 30 years. Sometime during his life he joined the I.O.O.F. By this Order he was buried, with full honors on the following Sunday afternoon. I was present at this funeral, it was terrible cold. I said he was buried by the I.O.O.F. with full honors, the band had the funeral procession, and on the way to the cemetery, the horns one after another froze up, hence the band had to stop playing. He is buried in the same cemetery where all the friends, sisters and brothers-in-law are buried that died in Lafayette. He was a good man, a kind husband, they never had any children.

After the death of her husband, she closed out all of the business, and lived retired and made herself as comfortable as she could. She worried a good deal and was very much broken up over the loss of her husband. The following forepart of the summer in the month of May, she came east to Pa. where she remained the best part of the summer, only going back to Indiana when some business matters compelled her to go back. Thus she lived on there in her quiet way until the summer of Sept. 1874. After the death of her sister Christine, she closed up her own home and went to keep house for the sister's husband, Valentine Zeigler. All seemed to get along very well together until the summer of 1883 when Zeigler also died. Thus leaving Agatha the charge of taking care of and raising the children. She is still engaged in keeping up the home with one of the girls, Mollie, in the City of Lafayette to this day.

Now we come to the twelfth child, this being myself, a son. Would that some one else could do this, as I fear I will be accused of only giving the good points, and keeping the bad hidden, but I am going to try to be honest and tell all about myself, whether it be good or bad. No doubt there be some of both. I could not been a boy, as other boys, if all had been good. I was born November 24, 1843. I too was born in the new school house, my name being Ludwig Henry, the Ludwig was after the Minister I am told, that served the people of that community at that time, and a great friend of my father. What the minister's other name was I never learned; if I ever did, I forgot it. Henry was after a school teacher that lived at Zwerenberg at the time, also a great friend of my father's, his whole name being Heinerick Baldinger. He died a few years afterwards, While I can remember things that happened at our home, only a few years after I was born, I cant remember of ever seeing him, but I remember of his widow being at our house quite frequently.

Our home seemed to be a gathering place for all the school teachers, of many surrounding towns. What great times I can remember they used to have, as long as my father was at all well enough to have them gather at our home. I started to school at the age of six years, as all my older brothers and sisters did. I don't think I made as much headway in my studies as some of my older brothers and sisters did. It seemed to go hard with me to study, after all I managed to get a fairly good education. A little while ago I said I was named after the minister, who was a great friend of my father's. This minister like the school teacher I was also named after soon died, and the place was filled by another by the name of Miller. This minister and my father never became to be great friends and as ministers in that country are over the public schools and teachers,

this minister made it very unpleasant for me, and more so after the death of my father, which was the last year of my school year in that country. It was only about one year that I went to school to my father. His health failing, a professor was furnished him by the name of Christian Frederick Spring. He did not stay with us but a few years until he decided to come to America with a family by the name of Kern, who was a close neighbor of ours, then a professor by the name of Adelhelm, this one and my father did not get along very well, he seemed to want to have everything his way, and not take into consideration my father's wishes in anything, and yet my father was responsible for the good of the school. This made it very unpleasant all around, so in the course of a few years, he was removed to another place, and a man by the name of Bearstecker took his place. This man and my father soon grew to be warm friends, they seemed to get along very well, he was the professor when my father died. As I said before, the minister being head of the public schools, this minister knew that this professor was a great friend of my father's, and of course our whole family, and would favor us, wherever he could, hence this professor was removed, almost as soon as my father died, and a man by the name of Herr took his place. This one however was allowed to stay a few months, until he was removed, then I don't remember the name of the man that took his place. He was the teacher when I graduated in the spring of 1857.

The last winter I went to school being the winter of 1856-1857. I went to Cathetical to the town of Zwerenberg, which was from five to six ~~years~~ miles from our town of Aichhalden. There were from 50 to 60 children attended this Cathecise, these children came from the different towns, probably half day towns around from 3 to 8 miles around, we met and were taught in the school house of this town of Zwerenberg, sometime beginning of this term in the fall of 1856, some one broke an inkwell and spilt the ink on the stand. This was blamed on me, but I was innocent of this, and I stood my ground, hence the minister in his stiffness against me made me sit by myself. There I sat by myself all that winter during the six months, every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon. Some five or six times during this time the minister asked me if I was ready to make acknowledgment of breaking the inkwell, each and every time I told him I did not break the vessel, hence I could not do otherwise than I have done through it all. So I continued to sit in one corner of the room all that term of six months until we came to the second last day. Wednesday the same question was asked me again and again I gave the same answer. Then I was told to take my regular seat which was next to the last in the class.

In this class we were placed and seated according to the month and days of our birth, mine being in November only one other in the class, being born in December, hence my seat was next to the last. The following Saturday afternoon being the last day I took my regular place in the class, hence had no further trouble. Next day Sunday I was confirmed in the church, along with the rest of my class, probably 50 or 60. Thus ended my public school days sometime in the month of 1857. The year of 1856 was a year of sickness at our home, my father's health was now gradually getting worse. Quite early in the summer he commenced to be unable to leave his bed, ~~xxxxxx~~ several times however when he was not able scarcely he got up and went out to see a party that lived several miles from our home, to assist him in some lumber deal that the party had on hand. But it was only a few times that he ventured thus away from home. After the warm weather set in he was entirely bedfast to the day of his death August 20, 1856.

My mother also to k sick, spent much time in bed, but like most mothers often got up and went about her work when she should have stayed in bed. An epidemic of scarlet fever broke out in the early part of the summer which laid up both my sisters Eva Mary and Agatha. That left me alone as a well person about our home, this, however, was not for very long. About ten days after I got the scarlet fever as is usually the case, the mother whether she is able or not is the one that goes, so my mother looked after all of us.

My sisters, one after the other, got better and well but the fever seemed to have taken such a hold on me I was worse than any of the others. When I finally did get better I suppose I went out too soon, exposed myself and had a backset, hence went back to bed and had another siege of about six weeks in bed. After I got better again I went out and had the second backset. This time I was worse than any of the others but again pulled through. Thus I spent the whole summer of 1856 in a bed of sickness. In April of 1857, it was either the second or third Sunday of this month, I graduated from public schools and was taken into full membership in the church, membership I have kept up to this date, while not in Germany, in Mercersburg, U.S.America. But my stay in Germany, after my graduation from public schools, was short. On the 21st day of May next, in company with my sister Agatha, it being Thursday Ascension Day, I started for America, left my dear mother and another sister Eva Maria along in Germany.

Two first cousins, Fred and John Kern, came along with us. When I left my dear mother standing at the head of the stairs, where I imagine I can see her yet, she called to me be a good boy. This was right after dinner. We had noodle soup for dinner. We had to walk probably six miles, where we joined the family that was coming to America. From there we traveled in a wagon, two horses. We started sometime during the night, traveled on all next day until evening. About sunset we arrived at a town by the name of Kiel. This town is near the river Rhine. We stayed in the town some four or five days, then we crossed the river into France to Strasburg. When we landed about 11:30 A.M., we must all started to see the big clock. We got there before twelve in time to see the twelve apostles come out and make a bow to the image of Christ, then return again. We left Strasburg in the evening. Next day arrived in Paris, this trip from Strasburg to Paris we went by railroad, did not stay in Paris but a short time when we took the train for Havre where we stayed until the first day of June. Where in the evening we went aboard our vessel. What a time that was, a sail vessel by the name of Springer, went out with the tide at twelve o'clock that night. I slept in an upper bunk along with one of the boys of about my own age of the family we came over with.

Long enough before day I was sick, oh how sick I was. Some of the boys went up on deck and then came back to tell me of the scenery but I was too sick to be interested in anything, just wanted to be left alone but sometime during the forenoon I got better and up on the deck I went too. What I saw I could not begin to tell, ships, boats of all description, both big and little, all shapes and sizes. A tug boat was pulling us out to sea. Some time during the day this tug boat cut loose from us and we traveled by ourselves. The wind blew us on our way. This was quite a large vessel for those days if I remember right. There were upwards of 500 persons on of all nationalities. We ggg had good weather, had no storm of such as I hear other emigrants tell they had.



We had plenty to eat and plenty good water to drink and were not in want for anything. What often seemed strange to me, we passed a sail ship about mid ocean going the opposite direction from us, we passed so close our captain talked with the captain of the other ship. It was a sail vessel such as ours and yet the same wind that was blowing and driving us west, was driving it east. We saw quite a number of vessels going in all directions but this one was the only one we got close to, others were far off. We also saw a great many fish. A few days before we reached New York there was a school of fish passed by us, the one side of us. The sea as far as our eyes could see was black with fish, they were several hours passing the ship, and there were stragglers following along after some two or three together, others again as high as a dozen, but next day all was quite, the fish had passed. I had a little experience which might have cost me my life. While on the ocean we boys liked to help pull on the rope when the sailors would change the sail.

One day I heard the signal given to be ready to change the sails when I was down in the lower part of the vessel. Whatever I was doing I dropped it and ran up the stairs on deck, just in time to catch hold of the rope before starting and stood on the coil of the rope that the end ran thru a pulley away out to the end of one of the arms. As they started to pull the rope wrapped itself around my legs and would have carried me out into the ocean but a sailor was standing near who caught me and saved me from going over board. The thirty days on the Atlantic were thirty happy days to us boys. There were all manner of amusements going on all the time, night and day. Some apparently were sick all the way over, seldom left their beds. At one of the places there was a company of people, don't know what nationality, but were terribly dirty and filthy. The captain ordered some of the men to be brought on deck and had the hose turned on them to wash them. He did not need to treat many that way, the others got to washing and cleaning themselves. About the 28th of June the sailors commenced to get the anchors ready to cast out and then we knew we were getting close to land and on the 29th we saw our captain with glass in hand watching thru the one side of our ship. He was looking for land but of course we could not see anything but long before morning news was brought down from deck lights could be seen and land. That brought new life to everyone. We boys were not long in getting on deck and sure enough we were drawing close to New York. People that had scarcely left their beds all the way over were up and dressing themselves and getting ready to put their feet on land again. We noticed even the color of the water had changed. While out on the ocean it seemed a sky blue but now it was a dirty clay. One thing I must not forget to tell about before I got my feet on land again, sometime during our voyage, it got very cold. The next day we learned the cause, we passed several icebergs, some of them were above the water as large as a large two storied house. As the icebergs disappeared it again became warmer. Before leaving my home I wrote a letter to my brother John telling him that I was getting ready to come to America and I would like him to meet us, sister Agatha and me in New York. But as I was then unable to say what day we expected to sail from Havre or the name of our ship, I did not mail the letter until I got to Havre. As soon as I learned all this I at once mailed the letter which would reach America before I would as it would go by steamship, and I travel by sail.

So of course as I came into New York harbor I would be getting anxious about meeting my brother, so as soon as our ship had anchored fast I being below in the ship, some one called to me that there was a man calling for me, I should come up on deck. I hurried up and as I looked over the side of the ship, there I saw my brother John standing up in a small boat. I was glad



and so was he. Brother John told me he had been in New York for about a week waiting on me. Every morning he would go down to the wharf early where he could see on the bulletin board what vessels would land that day and the morning he saw a ship by the name of Springer would arrive early that morning, he hired a man and his boat to row him out to where the ship was, thus it was he could meet me out there. As soon as it could be arranged, a large flat boat pulled along side of us and a broad gang plank laid so we were transferred to the flat boat which took us over to the house where all emigrants at that time landed. Soon my brother John came in, in company with an officer, as soon as he and I met, this officer left. No one was allowed to come into the city without an officer for fear of parties getting in merely to rob passengers. As soon as we could get our little belongings together, we made ready to get away. Next thing was to bid goodbye to the people we came with and others we made acquaintance with on the way. We spent the first day in the city of New York since we had no chance, no boat running up to Philadelphia until evening.

This was a steamboat. As soon as we got to Philadelphia we took a train for Lancaster where brother John left us at a hotel and sent word to brother Ernest and Gottlieb, one of them should come and meet us and take us to their home to spend a few weeks. As a little visit in this hotel, we waited until sometime of the middle of the day when Gottlieb came for us. I hardly knew him but having seen his photographs I recognized him. In this hotel I sat for the first time in a rocking chair. at first I was afraid of going backwards so was always on my guard. By and by we got started on our way to Marticville where brothers Ernest and Gottlieb lived, it being about ten miles we did not get out there until evening as the team Gottlieb was driving was not very fast, so here in the same evening of probably first or second of July when I first in my life saw my brother Ernest, he having left our home in Germany some four or five years before I was born. I stayed there about two weeks when brother Ernst took us to Lancaster, got our tickets to Chambersburg. During the two weeks I spent there at Marticville I saw some strange things to me. One thing was the firefly, I was forever running after them and catching them. Another was the rabbit. This being right in harvest time, Ernst cut some wheat, quite a number of rabbits were in the wheat field. I was after them, trying to catch one, it seemed they knew me and just played with me, not one could I catch. Ernst had some cherry trees on his premises, the cherries were ripe, I had the liberty to go and eat all I wanted. This was a treat I never in my life had this chance given me and you bet I made good use of this opportunity while at Lancaster.

Aunt Katie as we afterwards called her, Ernst's wife, tried to fix me up a little so I would not look so odd. I had only my German clothing, my dress suit consisted of a long frock coat that reached nearly down to my heels. This coat was cut down from a coat my father used to wear but this Aunt Katie cut the tail off so it did not reach my knees. In this suit I landed in Mercersburg, nothing particular took place on our way coming to Harrisburg. We landed there early in the morning and took the first train for Chambersburg, where we landed sometime during the forenoon. The depot in Chambersburg at that time was a short distance below the jail. Up this street Aggie and I started carrying our baggage until we got up to the corner of Main Street. A German man by the name of Gottman lived there. He saw us, I suppose he could see by our dress we were not Americans. He came to us and asked us where we were going. I told him we wanted to go to Mercersburg, he told us just to come into his house and he would see that we got there. The stage would not start until sometime towards evening so we made ourselves as comfortable as we could until near stage time when he started to take us down to where the stage started from but on our way we met the driver, who was none other than James Snyder. He handed a letter to me written by my

brother John, telling me we were to come with this man, he would bring us to his home in Mercersburg. The stage line office was in one side of the Franklin Hotel which stood on the site where the Central Presbyterian Church now stands. As soon as we got into the stage a heavy rain came up, no one in the stage but Agie and I. In a very short time the streets were running with water in every direction, it looked almost as tho we were lost in midocean again. After the worst was over our driver came again, and we got started on our way to Mercersburg in a two-horse hache. We came by way of St. Thomas and Bridgeport, now called Marks. I never forgot the evening, as we reached the top of the hill, as we could look down into the town, it was growing towards dusk, we get into the town, and it seemed almost as tho we were going to be fooled again, like we were when we came to St. Thomas, thinking it was Mercersburg, then again Marks, and here we are passing through the town again. But as we got to the house where old Mr. Atkinson now lives, the stage stoped and the driver opened the door for us to get out, when here I met my brother Fred for the first time in my life, he having left Germany some years before I was born, almost at the same time my brother John came.

So as soon as supper was over, I went with him, up to his house, he at that time was making his home with his father-in-law, Mr. Harry Spangler, John and his wife occupying the two rooms, on the south side of the hall, the house now owned by the Klee girls. I was put to bed with the son, Henry Spangler, I guess we did not quarrel any, as he could not talk Dutch, nor I English. I got right lonely at times, had no one to talk to other than my sister Agie, so I guess I spent most of the time with her up at brother Fred's. John and Fred at that time were engaged in the building of houses, principally in the country, and would go away from home Monday morning and not get back until Saturday evening. At this time they were building a house for a Mr. Brindle, a house now owned by the Allemans. I soon made the acquaintance of a German man by the name of Leonnard Lachove. He used to make matches for Stewart Sharp, their place of business stood where the D.F. Metcalf home stands. But smetime about the middle of August, B.L. Ryder came to town and chanced to meet brother Fred. As this man could talk German and needed a boy, Fred thought it would be a good place for me. So after thinking and talking over it, I decided to go and try it.

So on the following Friday, it being the 21st of August, I went along up with a man by the name of Kadel whom Ryder sent in for me. This man was German also. I got homesick the next day, so came back to Mercersburg Saturday afternoon and stayed in Mercersburg until Monday morning when I went back again and stayed all week. This I kept up for quite a while. But after I was there for some years, I seldom came to Mercersburg unless I had business to bring me in. I worked on the farm and in the nursery but eventually got tired of the farm work so decided to take a trip West, out to Indiana. So I left the farm on the 2nd day of April 1864, came to Mercersburg to spend a couple days before going out. In these couple days I decided I would like to learn the carpenter trade. So I set in with brothers John and Fred to learn the trade. But the excitement of war being so high during that summer work was not very steady. It was during that summer rebels came through Mercersburg on their way to Chambersburg to burn the town. As soon as the rebels left there, in company with some other men, I went down while the town was yet burning, was too hot many places to go near. This however was the last time, rebels got into Pennsylvania. I stayed in Mercersburg until the following spring, 1865, when in the month of May, both John and I started west. We did not let anyone of the friends know we were coming. We first went to Columbia City, where brother Chris lived. On arriving there, we first hunted up his home, met

his wife, she directed us to the store where Christ was clerking in a hardware store. I walked in alone, John stayed in the outside, this was the first time I ever saw him and yet I walked up to him and greeted him, by shaking hands. He said I don't know you unless you are a brother of mine, but don't know which one. I replied no wonder you don't know me as this is the first time our eyes meet. Then he says you are Henry. I said yes. By that time John came walking up. Of course he knew him at once as he had seen him not many years before. Brother John and I stayed there about a week, then we went down to Lafayette, Indiana, where sisters Mary, Katharine, Christina and Agatha lived. We spent a couple weeks there when John took a notion to go out to Yates City, Illinois, where his brother-in-law, Henry Spangler, was working. I did not go along but got work from a man, a carpenter by the name of Silas Beard. He gave me \$2.25 per day. I boarded with sister Aggie, she did not charge me any boarding. Hence I saved some money there.

In the Fall I got work in a factory planing mill but towards Spring I took a notion to come back to Pennsylvania and worked for brother John, as he had taken up the carpenter work again. After coming back the same summer of 1865, my intention however were only to come back for a few years, then go back to Lafayette again. So what money I had saved, one hundred and seventy-two dollars I left there with sister Mary's husband, Fred Newman. A few years afterwards he failed in business and I lost all my money. I kept on working here for John until the Spring of 1868 when Fred and John again went into partnership. I kept on working for them both, they took large contracts, building churches in Green Castle, one in Bonnesboro, Maryland, one in Bedford, Pa., Lutheran Church of Mercersburg, and Presbyterian Church of McConnellsburg, besides other buildings, In 1872, the Poor House of Bedford, the Fall of 1871.

Brother Christ and sister Aggie made us a visit to Pennsylvania and while on this visit, Christ offered me a position in his store in Columbia City if I come out. After talking this proposition over with the girl of my choice, she being satisfied to come out, I accepted brother Christ's offer and I left Mercersburg again on the morning of November 28, 1871, and started for Columbia City, where I landed the morning of November 30, it being Thanksgiving Day. So in a few days after I started in clerking in the store. I liked it very well but liked outdoor work better. The following February sister Agatha's husband died at Lafayette, I went down to the funeral, did not stay very long however, soon came back to Columbia City as Spring opened up, the weather getting nice, I commenced to long for the outside work and this kept bearing on my mind. Before leaving Pennsylvania in the Fall, I had engaged myself to marry a young lady by the name of Rebecca North, so during the winter I had Christ to buy a home for me, so I would have a place to take my bride after getting her out. So sometime the fore part of May, I left Columbia City, bringing Christ's wife along in, also sister Agatha joined us at Canton, Ohio. I came back to Mercersburg and was married to Rebecca North the evening of May 23, 1872.

As we expected to start West again in a very whort time, we did not take a wedding trip but counted our trip West to take the place of a regular wedding trip. But as brothers Fred and John had taken a large contract at Bedford, the poor house, I decided not to go back to Columbia City again but started in work again for Fred and John. Thus Christ's wife had to go back alone as sister Agatha had decided to spend the summer in Pennsylvania. It often occurred to me that I made a mistake in staying here, I should have gone to Columbia City as I had planned to do in the Fall before going West.

After being married I worked about town for a few months, then I went to Bedford to work, did not get home until the second week in October, election at that time. Our state elections were held at that time second Tuesday in October, but since that time the law was changed to all elections to be held in November. As soon as election was over, I started back to Bedford and did not come home again until Christmas, then I staid home until the first of February when I went back again, and staid until the Home was finiahed, which was about the middle of March, after that I never got back to this day. All this time my wife and I made our home with her people, A.J.North. Of course I was very little home asit was shown, but my wife worked on at her home all this time, as she did before being married, but now I decided if I was going to stay in Mercersburg, we go to housekeeping. I still had a hankering for to go West, but eventually decided to stay, so I rented the Holman house, where Harry Spangler has his office now.

Of course I had the two rooms upstairs above this office and the basement, the stairways ti these places have been torn out since we moved into this house about the 15th of April 1873, and we staid there until April 1, 1878. While living in this house two of our children were born, John Andrew, June 28, 1874, and Mary Eva October 10, 1876. I worked on for brother Fred and John until they dissolved partnership in the Spring of 1876. Then John and I formed a partnership, worked together for one year, then he stopped working at the carpentering trade entirely, this was in the Spring of 1877. During the year John and I worked together we did considerable work, we built the Lutheran Parsonage, akitchen for George Steiger, some work for Judge Porter, some for the Heisters, and still many other jobs I have forgotten. After John stopped the trade he went into a partnership with Sam'l McKinney in the Dry Goods business, in the room now occupied by Gipe and Oyler as a hardware, and I started to work alone, got all the work I wanted during the summer, there was little doing during the Winter.

After the first of January 1878, I concluded I like to have a home of my own, so I bought two lots from Dr. Brownson, 107 feet front for \$300, and at once proceeded to get ready to build. I built the frame part first, now out kitchen and sitting room, but did not get it finished by April first, when I had to vacate the Holman house, so my father-in-law gave us permission to occupy the one side of their house, the two rooms on the north side, and an old back kitchen. Here we staid until about the middle of June, when my house was finished, and I could move in. The following 26th of February, 1879, another son was born, this one we named Fritzie Christian. The Spring of 1878 I undertook to build a bank barn for George Steiger, on his coarner farm, this lumber was cut in the woods back of Charlestown. I helped to cut the trees, we finished the barn before harvest. After harvest I contracted for the public school building. I got the house about ready for plastering until Winter set in, which usually stopped all work. In this contract I took the old school buildings as part pay, one was the upper hall which stood where Harry Byrons House now stands, occupied by Jeff Dechart, the other a one story house, now owned by Doc Unger. He however had added and changed the building all around in every way.

It took considerable work to finish upthis building, but I got it ready for the school to start in the first Monday in Sept. 1879, when it was taken off my hands, quite a number of parties tried to give me all the trouble they could, and not have it taken off my hands, but I had some good friends also that stood by me, such as John Orth, and Doc Brownson, on the school board that would never forsake me. They did not only talk for me but acted for me as well. The following Spring 1880, after Brother Fred died, I was persuaded to buy half of the stock of hardware he had and go into partnership in the hardware business with Scot Waidlich, a son of Fred's. ( paid \$2500 for half

of the stock and the whole of it was not worth that.) This was a great mistake I made, and caused me a great deal of trouble, I was not in very long until I got my eyes open. Scot proved to be a poor partner, and how to better it I could not see, I tried to get Scot interested by me taking carpenter work along with the store. I contracted for the Hoffaditz home, with Charles Hoffaditz, now owned by his only son Albert Hoffaditz. In this I failed I had not only the store to look after but the building as well, so finally during the winter of 81 and 82, I got Jacob Reisner, now living in McConnellsburg, to buy Scot's half. Then I thought I was fixed but low and behold, I jumped out of the frying pan into the fire. After Reisner was in a few months, he wanted out again, I could not let him out, so he employed counsel, Lawyer Sharp. Of course I had to do the same thing, so I employed John Stewart, afterwards Judge Stewart. Just imagine two of us partners trying to carry on a business, at the same time lawing with each other. It seemed to me at times he tried to make my life as bitter as possible. Sometimes I did not know where my head stood, I never knew what the next morning would bring with it, but thank God I lived thru it without doing myself any harm.

That year of 1882 was a year of sorrow to me and also to my wife. During the month of September, John my eldest took sick with Diptheria, about the time he got better, might say well, Mary took it, she did not get well. After fighting the disease for a couple weeks, with intense suffering, she died October 16, Monday morn. The day she was buried Fritzie took the disease, and we fought it all we knew how, but all of no avail, he died November 8, Wednesday morn. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Fritzie was 3 years and 8 months old and Mary 6 years and 6 days, and nicer and sweeter children than they were never born, but they are safe, who knows what trouble they escaped in this world by being called home early.

As this year of 1882 was drawing to a close, Mr. Adam Steiger came into the store and asked me if there be such a thing possible as to get the trouble adjusted between my partner Jacob Reisner and I. I told him I could see no other way than for him to buy my interest as I did not feel able to run the business myself, so he proposed that we come over to his restaurant that eve. after we close the store. This we did. Each had a plate of oysters and while we were eating these oysters, the selling of this store came up. I made a proposition how I would sell, set my price, and Reisner took me up. I sold to him at a great sacrifice, he could not help taking it but I was so tired of the business, I was ready to get out anyway I could. I was almost tired of life. After getting out of the store business, I again turned my attention to the carpenter business. This was the spring of 1883. During that summer I contracted to build a home for Lawyer Black, about 8 miles from town, and is today occupied by Jacob Freeze, and the farm is worked by his son Charles Freeze.

During this year I done some work at Williamson for Samuel Hawbaker. During that same year on the 25th of July Ella North was born. Her mother died on the 26th of July, and before she was one week old, she was brought to our house for Mom to care for and raise her. We may have more to say about her later on. The following year of 1884, a child was born to us, a daughter, on the 13th day of June. This gave my wife plenty to do, she had her hands full with the raising of two babies. We called this girl baby of ours after my sister Agatha Meyer. During the after part of the year 1883, and the forepart of 1884, I built a house up at Dutchtown, for Mrs. Cook. That took me away from home considerable which left my wife and family often by themselves from Monday until Saturday. I had better not built the house in the early summer of 84, and staid home with my wife and family, we all would

have fared better the rest of our days, further than that I will not make mention of. At this time I can't remember of anything special taking place during the balance of the year 84 or even 85. But during the year of 1886, I built a house at London for George Stinger, and commenced the brick part or front of my own house, started to dig the cellar the first of November. All I cared for to get done was to get the house under roof, which I got done. On the 24th of November, my birthday, I had what might be called a pleasant surprise. A son was born, thus it was my birthday present. This boy we called Jackson Spring, Jackson after my wife's father, and Spring after a schoolteacher I had while I was in Germany. This schoolteacher came to America probably in the early 50, got over to Canada, New Hamburg, Waterloo County, Ontario, and got to preaching. I never forgot him hence called my youngest son after him.

During the fall of this year 1887, my father-in-law died, A.J North, at the age of 70 years. My mother-in-law lived on in the house with her sister Katharine, Aunt Katie, as she was known, until the year of 1892 when she died at the age of 73. Mrs. North and Aunt Katie owned a farm in partnership between Oakville and Newville, Cumberland County. This farm fell to my lot to sell, having been appointed administrator of Mrs. North's estate, and Aunt Katie gave me power-of-attorney to sell her interest also. I also sold the home (Stonehouse) in town to Daniel Faust for \$2000. The farm we set two days to try to sell it, seemed nobody wanted it. We finally disposed of it to Sarah Kistler, a step sister of Mrs. North and Aunt Katie at \$30 an acre.